

1919
GRAND PRIX DAHLIAS



New Giant Collarette "SAN MATEO STAR" (See page 12)

Bessie Boston Dahlia Farm
San Mateo, California

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GRAND PRIX
HIGHEST AWARD
PANAMA-PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., 1915

GREETING

TO OUR FRIENDS: PAST, PRESENT AND COMING

Despite the war, the "dahlia bug" is flourishing. Of course, this does not refer to the insect, but to the human dahlia bug, who has continued to multiply notwithstanding world conditions.

Before the armistice was announced, many a dahlia lover, called to serve his country, has told us on giving his order for bulbs: "I do not expect to see them bloom, but the women folks must have flowers to cheer them in my absence."

And to you, who have hesitated, let us advise you not to forget to keep the home gardens growing as well as the home fires burning to greet the heroes on their return.

There is no flower like the dahlia. Its season of blooming is longer than any of its rivals, and at a time of the year when other garden blooms have faded. No other flower has such a wealth of color, such a variety of form; nor does any other plant, if given a little care, reward the gardener with such a bountiful harvest of blossoms.

The best dahlias in the world today are originated in California; none equal them in size or color. Holland must take a back seat, for the Dutch stock last year was very inferior to the home products.

Prizes? Oh, yes; as usual we won more prizes last season than any other grower, although we exhibited only in the Palace Hotel show, which was given by the Dahlia Society of California. Sixteen awards for seventeen entries were our share. Also we received an overwhelming vote of commendation as growers of the most popular dahlia—the "Osam Shudow."

The splendid "Jane Selby" again won for us the society's Gold Medal for the best fifty blooms, and we had the honor, for the second time, of receiving Mrs. Samuel H. Taft's prize. Last year it was a lovely Rookwood vase, given for the best six blooms of an unnamed seedling, the winner to be named—"Mabel B. Taft."

Another award was the pretty silver cup offered by William Hill for the best twelve decorative blooms. Also there were medals awarded to us for other "firsts."

Our chief joy was in the tremendous vote given for our dahlia—the Osam Shudow. It evinced the public's appreciation of a dahlia student who gave freely of his wide knowledge of the flower to all dahlia growers, both amateur and professional. Mr. Shudow was connected with this farm from its inception until his untimely death last June, and we take this opportunity to pay tribute to his genius, which did much to make a little beginning develop into a successful dahlia business.

**ELIZABETH W. LYMBERY,
Formerly Bessie Boston.**

ORDER EARLY—Early orders are solicited to prevent disappointment in case the variety desired should be sold out.

FORWARDING—We begin to ship our tubers from February 1st, unless otherwise ordered. We prepay all retail orders when accompanied by cash.

GUARANTEE—We guarantee that all dahlia tubers or plants sent are true to name.

SUBSTITUTION—We do not substitute unless expressly noted, or by permission; but it is well to mention a few varieties that you are willing to have substituted should some of those selected by you be sold out.

PRICES—The following prices are for field grown divided tubers.

CULTURE—Dahlias can be planted from March until July. In every box we ship, we enclose full directions for growing.

VISITORS—Are always welcome at our farm, especially in blossom time.

LOCATION—The farm is located on the State Highway, near Tilton avenue, San Mateo. Take car at Fifth and Market streets, San Francisco; get off at Tilton avenue; walk two blocks west.

NEW PEONY DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN CREATION

The peony dahlia is a recent introduction to the dahlia family, and deservedly most popular. The flower is large, semi-double, and usually shows the golden center. It is always free-flowering, and for that reason is most beautiful growing. The long, straight stems make it an excellent cutting variety. The small, curling petals clustered around the center give the flower character. The colors are marvelous, and every shade on a painter's palette is produced in the peony dahlia except blue. It is a distinct variety although it resembles the much-beloved, old-fashioned peony, from whence it gets its name.

★**BLACK BEAUTY (Bessie Boston)**—Dark dahlias are scarce and there is always a demand for them. So we were delighted when we discovered this peony among our seedlings several years ago. It is the biggest and blackest peony we have ever seen. The stems are long and stiff and the flowers immense. There is nothing like it and it well deserves its name. One of its best qualities is its freedom in blooming. Roots, **\$1.50.**

★**JESSIE M. WILLIAMS (Bessie Boston)**—A beautiful, soft dove color suffused with lilac rose. The flower is very large and fluffy and a delight to the eye. Its excellent stem combined with lasting qualities make it a valuable cut flower variety. Some dahlias seem to love to bloom and this is one of that variety. Stock limited. Roots, **\$1.50.**

★**MY LADY (Bessie Boston)**—Is an uncommon beauty and difficult to describe. An unusual red somewhat of the shade of a sun-ripened tomato with a faint cerise suffusion and slightly tipped gold. Its formation is of the best and its stem is as rigid as a cane. Its blooms are immense and profuse. Roots, **\$1.50.**

★**NIAGARA (Bessie Boston)**—This dahlia has been described as the exact shade of old Genoese velvet; anyway it is a lovely, odd shade of red. But its great charm is its unique formation. The tiny, curling petals are so numerous as often to completely hide the yellow center. It bears a wealth of big blooms on splendid, upright stems throughout the entire season. Roots, **\$1.50.**

PEONY DAHLIAS—General Collection

The prices are for strong tubers.

Those starred are California dahlias.

★**AGNES BOSTON (Bessie Boston)**—The largest peony in existence and despite its immense size, the stem is very fair. The coloring and shape of this incomparable flower would make it a winner anywhere. Purple is difficult to obtain and "Agnes Boston" is a royal purple shading to white. The petals are long and curling and the tiny center petals are so numerous and twisted that often the yellow center is completely hidden. The plant grows tall and the blossoms were as good late in the season as early. Stock limited. Roots, **\$3.50.** Plants in May, **\$2.00.**

ATTRACTION—The blossoms are bold and large but not coarse. A distinct and charming character is obtained without stiffness and formality. The color is bright rose pink and the stems are long and straight. **75c.**

AURORE—An apricot pink, free flowering and excellent stem. New, **75c.**

BERTHA VON SUTTNER (Hornsveld)—A splendid big bloom of creamy pink. Not a new dahlia but a standard which no garden can be without. The fluffy petals are twisted and curled; an unusually attractive flower. **35c.**

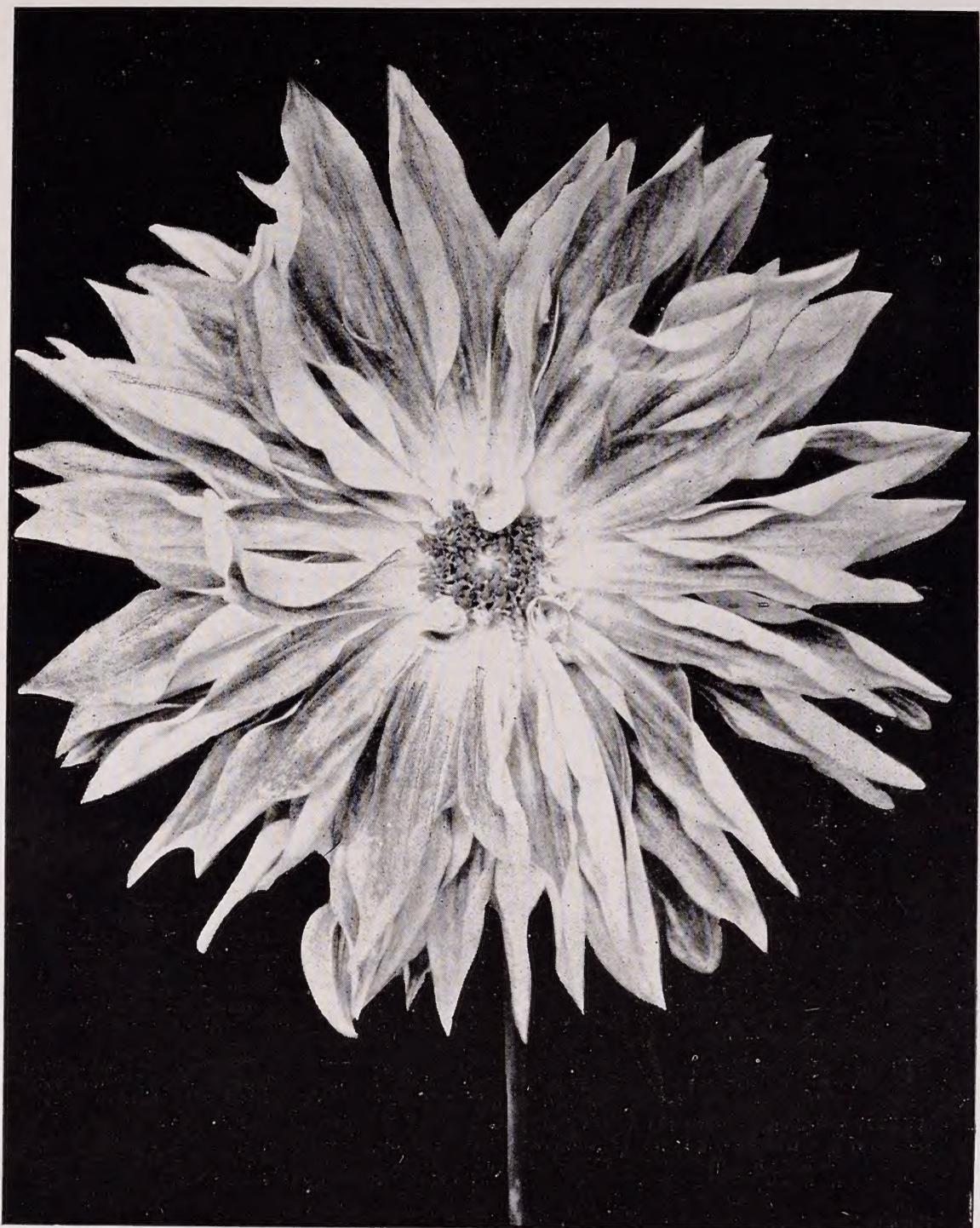
CALIFORNIA—Yellow, blooms freely, stem good. New, **75c.**

CARDINAL—A purplish red. Good for cutting. New, **75c.**

CREATION—Cherry red, medium size flower, good stem. New, **75c.**

CREAM KING (West)—It is an incomparable dahlia. We have grown it for several years, and it is one of the most popular dahlias we grow. The coloring is different; a soft cream, as the name would indicate. The stem is very long which makes it an excellent cut flower. It blooms freely all season. The size is immense, so it is a favorite for exhibiting. Cream King has every good quality. **50c.**

EDITH CAVELL (West)—An entirely new and beautiful color, orange suffused and shaded with old gold. The large flower is held aloft on long stiff stems. **\$1.00.**



NEW PEONY DAHLIA "AGNES BOSTON"

(See Page 2)



NEW PEONY DAHLIA "NATALIE MAI"

(See Page 6)

PEONY DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

★**EDITH WOOSTER (Bessie Boston)**—There is something most appealing to the eye in this beautiful, large dahlia. The coloring is unique and described by one artist as having the tea rose blend of red and yellow. The yellow is so suffused and overlaid with sunset red that it would take an artist to write an adequate description of its beauty, so we are merely going to say, it is a remarkable free bloomer with excellent habit. **\$2.50.**

★**ELSA (Lohrmann)**—The best white peony in existence. A Californian which every grower admires as it is good for all purposes. No exhibition table is seen without it. The large well-formed blossom blooms freely on fine stem. **50c.**

FRAULEIN BUDDE—The upright stem of this peony combined with its purple color make it good for cutting and exhibition. **35c.**

GEISHA (Hornsveld)—The most popular of all dahlias. This is the dahlia which made the peony famous, a stunning mixture of scarlet and gold. Good for any purposes and always in demand as a cut flower. Blooms freely the entire length of the season. **35c.**

GLORY OF NYKIRK—Nothing better in its color, a soft mulberry purple. The stem is always long and upright. **35c.**

GOLIATH—The best scarlet peony as it does not burn in the hot sunshine. Is a mass of blooms the entire season. The formation and stem are exceptional. Excellent for cutting. **75c.**

★**HAL CURTIS (Bessie Boston)**—A favorite with us because of its splendid stem, and its lovely shading of old rose and salmon. It is the best type of peony with a center nearly hidden with clusters of tiny petals. Flowers are large, and it is one of the freest bloomers we grow. **\$1.00.**

HAMPTON COURT—A delightful pink, fine stems, with flowers borne well above the foliage. **25c.**

★**HOWITZER (Bessie Boston)**—The largest fancy peony dahlia produced. No dahlia of any type has more brilliant coloring than this enormous yellow and red peony. The gorgeous yellow blooms are striped and splashed scarlet. It is one of the brightest spots in the garden as it grows tall and is laden all season with enormous blossoms which attract the eye instantly. It has all the good qualities, immense size, gorgeous coloring, free flowering habit, and long stems which make it an excellent cut flower. **\$1.50.**

H. J. LOVINK (Hornsveld)—Lovely blooms of mauve shading to white. A most dependable dahlia, as the stem is long and straight. **35c.**

JULIET (Burrell)—A lovely old rose peony with good stem, but a very late bloomer. **50c.**

LEO XIII (Hornsveld)—An enormous yellow of beautiful, distinctive form. No better yellow in any type of dahlia. One of the best Holland introductions. Excellent stem and free flowering habit. Good for any purpose. **50c.**

LIBERTY (West)—The red of grandma's coral necklace. Not new but nothing better. Stems are exceptionally long and rigid. The formation is of the highest type. Blossoms abundantly; charming for cutting or exhibiting. **35c.**

MEYERBEER (Nonin)—A dahlia where the demand is always greater than the supply. Everybody who sees it wants it. It is an immense bloom of a fascinating purple and grows on rigid stems. No garden or exhibition table is a success without it. The formation is unexpected, and it blooms freely all season. The best of the famous French peonies. **75c.**

★**MIGNON (Lohrmann)**—Narrow pointed petals of delicate lilac, or mauve, shading to a light center. The flower is large size and a pleasure to grow because of its stem and the masses of blooms produced. **75c.**

MME. COISSARD (Vor.-Charmet)—A pure cerise shading to white at the center. Late in the season it is shaded white and cerise, but is always a beautiful blossom. As it is a dwarf grower, and a profuse bloomer; it makes a charming bedding variety. **35c.**

MME. VARD (Charmet)—A brilliant currant color shading to yellow at the center. One of the most stunning peonies and always in demand because of its unique coloring and good stems. A French novelty of good type. Forms low compact bushes, which make it good for massing. **50c.**

MME. VAN BIJSTEN—This is a most lovely lilac or mauve dahlia with plenty of curly petals, fine stem and free-flowering. **35c.**

MONDSCHIEBE (Goos Koenemann)—Invaluable cut flower, as the stems are over two feet long and stiff and straight as a cane. Blooms incessantly. The blossom is a soft yellow of good size and formation. **35c.**

MRS. A. COBB—A lovely peony of a delightful pink. Stems are thin and wiry and sometimes the blossom is too heavy for them if the plant has been too much disbudded. **75c.**

★**MRS. JESSIE L. SEAL (Gleadell)**—The largest flower of its coloring, which is a magnificent old rose with golden shadings. The stem is particularly long and the blossom is borne well above the foliage. An all round good dahlia. **\$1.00.**

PEONY DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

★**MRS. JOHN BRAY (Bessie Boston)**—A most distinctive fancy peony of a white ground speckled, striped and splashed with maroon, forming a good contrast to the yellow disc. One of our biggest sellers. Habit exceptional, flowering early and constant, stem long and stiff, making it excellent for cutting and an ornament in the garden. **\$1.00.**

MRS. WARNAAR (Hornsveld)—Classed by a few as a hybrid cactus, but is really a peony with coarse cactus petals. The color with us is a faint flesh pink. Blooms freely on fine stems. **75c.**

★**NATALIE MAI (Bessie Boston)**—A blossom so unusual in coloring that it is quite impossible to do it justice in description. A deep burgundy with maroon suffusion shading to a creamy pink at the edge. This is a very large flower with a cluster of tiny petals around the center. **\$1.50.**

★**PEARL DELGER (Bessie Boston)**—The difficulty in obtaining new color in dahlias is becoming greater every year, but this variety is entirely unique in this respect, being best described as plum. The flower is very large and beautifully formed, and is a gem for exhibition and garden as the bushes are loaded with blooms. **\$1.00.**

★**PITTI-SING (Bessie Boston)**—A most beautiful and fascinating dahlia, which attracts great attention. It is the most brilliant oriental red with a gold suffusion. The flower is large and beautifully formed, with clusters of the characteristic peony petals around the center. **\$1.00.**

★**RICHARD COEUR DE LION (Bessie Boston)**—The color is rose, shading lighter towards the center. The formation of the immense blossom is excellent. It flowers early and bushes are weighted with flowers all season. The plant grows tall and straight with wonderful stiff stems three to four feet long. An ideal cut flower variety. **\$1.00.**

SUNSTAR (West)—A really magnificent variety; in color bright rosy-crimson suffused with yellow, shading off to pale yellow and white. **50c.**

TURCO—Dark maroon. Well liked because of stem and color. Medium size flower. **50c.**

★**WALTA LINFORTH (Bessie Boston)**—Some dahlias are a joy to grow. This is one of them. It has every good quality to endear it to a grower's heart. The warm carmine coloring is uncommon; the large size is attractive; the long stem is all that could be demanded in a dahlia; and the mass of blossoms it bears for over four months makes it a favorite with the public. **\$1.00.**

WEBER—A very large mauve-pink peony with splendid stems. Flower is of the best type and is a favorite because of its color and freedom of flowering. **50c.**

YELLOW TRANSPARENT (Hornsveld)—This medium sized yellow bloom has an excellent stem, but the plant only grows about 13 inches high. Good for borders and bedding. **35c.**

ZEPPELIN—A pretty lilac bloom despite its name. Excellent stem. **25c.**

NEW DECORATIVE DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN CREATION

The flowers are large and full, with loosely formed, long flat petals. Some of the latest introductions have a remarkably striking appearance, and are certainly valuable for cutting or for decoration of large beds or borders, possessing such necessary qualifications as freedom of flowering, combined with size of the blooms and attractive colorings.

★**COMSTOCK (Bessie Boston)**—Is a new type which we are introducing this season. The petals are slightly fluted, forming an unusually beautiful flower of great substance. It was the biggest, yellowest flower in the entire garden last Fall and instantly attracted attention. Of course, the stem is excellent and it blooms freely. A few roots at **\$3.50.** Plants in May, **\$2.50.**

★**DUSKY PRINCESS (Bessie Boston)**—Was very welcome last Fall, for there had been a clamor for a dark decorative which would be equally good for cutting and exhibiting. The big blooms were unique, as the petals had a corded effect produced by faint veins on the back. Fine stem and has great freedom in producing blooms. An absolutely new effect. Roots, **\$2.50.**

★**JOHN LEWIS CHILDS (Bessie Boston)**—The very best "fancy" of any type. Picture a yellow, suffused, splashed and striped with brilliant scarlet, and generally tipped white, and you have this new decorative. All fancy or bi-colored dahlias occasionally have a flower of a solid color. In this case the red blossom is tipped white. The size is immense, the stem is stiff, and no dahlia bloomed more frequently or lasted longer when cut. Roots, **\$2.50.**

NEW DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—Our Own Creation (Continued)

★**LADY BLANCHE** (Bessie Boston)—The biggest white we have ever seen and a good example of the new type of slightly fluted petals. Splendid stem, free bloomer, but with an uncertain center. Excellent for cutting and garden decoration but not recommended for exhibiting. Roots, **\$2.00**.

★**LOYALTY** (Bessie Boston)—A magnificent royal purple of tremendous size and wonderful stem. A dahlia fit for any purpose and a decided acquisition to any collection. Part of its charm lies in an unusually beautiful fern like foliage. Blooms freely. Roots, **\$3.50**.

★**MRS. CYRUS WALKER** (Bessie Boston)—This dahlia early last Fall acquired the name of the "pansy" dahlia, as no two flowers were exactly alike but all were in the dark pansy purple tones. The flower is large and stem fine. Blooms freely with but few leaves on the plant. Roots, **\$2.50**.

★**MRS. R. R. STRANGE** (Bessie Boston)—This, we consider the best new dahlia offered in California this season because of its wondrous coloring, a burnished copper with faint shadings of old rose and old gold. No dahlia attracted more attention in the garden or at the dahlia show. It was a mass of large blossoms all season, the stems were good, but its absolutely new Autumn coloring was its chief charm. Roots, **\$5.00**. Plants in May, **\$3.50**.

★**MRS. SYKES** (Bessie Boston)—A novelty pink of the American Beauty shades which will not burn in the sunshine. A dwarf grower with big flowers and a profuse bloomer. Very much in demand as a cut flower because of its unique coloring. **\$2.00**.

★**RAINBOW** (Bessie Boston)—One of the flowers very difficult to adequately describe—old gold, heavily suffused with oriental red. A splendid big blossom with incomparable stem and a fine and frequent bloomer. Nothing like it in color. Good for exhibiting and admirable for cutting. Roots, **\$3.50**.

★**SHOWER OF GOLD** (Bessie Boston)—The demand last season was for dahlias of uncommon coloring, especially for those of gold and apricot shades. This large decorative is a brilliant yellow, deepening to soft apricot towards the center. A new type, with slightly fluted petals. Very strong stem and blooms quite freely. Roots, **\$3.50**.

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—General Collection

The prices are for strong tubers.

Those starred are California dahlias.

★**AMPHION** (West)—Was the largest dahlia exhibited in the Palace Hotel Show, 1917. The color is a soft mauve or lilac. The blossom is beautifully formed with curled and twisted petals. The stems are long, but slightly pendant. The most attractive flower of its kind for exhibiting. **50c.**

★**AZALEA** (Bessie Boston)—A big bloom formed of many rows of long narrow florets giving it an unusually attractive, as well as uncommon shape. The color is soft, creamy yellow, and the outer row of petals is tinged pink. Fine graceful stems. **\$1.50.**

★**BEATRICE SLOCOMBE** (Slocombe)—Yellow, shading to red. A Geisha seedling which will appeal to lovers of that favorite. **50c.**

★**BESSIE BOSTON** (Leedham)—A decorative which is always in demand because of its splendid stem and lasting qualities when cut. Looks like a big red sunflower with cleft petals. **35c.**

★**BILLIE BURKE**—A soft yellow of large size and beautiful formation. The many petals are long and narrow forming a blossom of good substance. Blooms freely. Scarce. **\$1.50.**

★**CARMENCITA** (Bessie Boston)—The most graceful and beautiful of the new decoratives. The yellow blossom is regularly striped red. The plant is a dwarf grower but forms a fine compact bush which is a mass of flowers all season. The formation of the enormous flower is uncommon and graceful. The stems are all to be desired and no blossom will last longer when cut. **\$2.00.**

★**C. C. MOORE** (Fenton)—While this variety is a decorative, in many localities it will not show true to form but will be a beautiful peony. Large, good stem, and a delightful orange color, much in demand for cutting. New. **\$2.00.**

★**CHIEFTAIN** (Slocombe)—A favorite fancy, of good size and depth, crimson maroon striped pink. **50c.**

★**COMELINESS**—The coloring is excellent, soft pink shading to white. Low growing, free-flowering, and fine stems. The flowers are large. **\$1.00.**

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

★**COPPER (Riedy-Doolittle)**—This tall growing variety is beautiful because of its odd coloring of copper shading to bronze. The stems are long and straight. Good for exhibition. **50c.**

DARKEYE—Flesh pink, with a dark center like an eye before the flower is fully developed. A large, splendid blossom with depth and admirable stem. This is not the correct name for this English dahlia which came to us without label in 1917. **\$1.00.**

DELICE—Finest pink, perfect in every way; one of the best dahlias for cutting in existence. **25c.**

DREAM (Hornsveld)—A lovely color of peculiar pink, more the coloring of peaches. An excellent cut flower of medium size. New. **\$1.00.**

★**DR. TEVIS (Pellcano)**—A magnificent blossom of a blend of copper, old rose and old gold. Immense flower with the best possible stem. A Californian which it is a pleasure to boost as we grew it most successfully last season. Has a tremendous record as a prize winner. **\$2.**

EVEQUE—Purplish violet, with good stem and free flowering. New. **75c.**

FUTURITY (West)—The most beautiful dahlia of its coloring, a deep old-rose. The blossom is large and regularly formed. Stem is good and grows well above the foliage, and it is always in demand as a cut flower. Blooms freely and is good for every purpose. For three seasons this has been our biggest seller. **50c.**

GREAT BRITAIN—Deep mauve or lilac, distinct form and large size, fine for cutting; very distinct coloring. **50c.**

★**HENRY MAIER (Maier)**—A seedling of Minnie Burgle with all its good characteristics. Large size, good stem, free-flowering and good lasting qualities when cut. A beautiful shade of deep yellow. At times the back of the petals is faintly lined with brown. No better yellow. **50c.**

HORTULANUS FIET (Hornsveld)—One of the loveliest dahlias which ever came from Holland. The color is a creamy-salmon shading to soft yellow. The flowers are large, the formation and stems both excellent. Free-flowering. **50c.**

★**JANE SELBY (Bessie Boston)**—This dahlia scarcely needs an introduction, it has scored so many successes, not only in California but in the East. Every time it is exhibited it captures a first prize in both professional and amateur entries. An immense bouquet of Jane Selby was the principal attraction at the Palace Hotel Show in 1918 and won for us the Dahlia Society's gold medal for the best fifty blooms. In the artistic catalogue just issued by the famous Rookwood Pottery Company of Cincinnati, O., a vase of this favorite is pictured with the title "Jane Selby visiting at Rookwood. Mrs. Taft." At the Palace Hotel Show, 1917, the keenest contest was for the magnificent trophy cup donated by Mrs. Samuel H. Taft, of Cincinnati, Ohio, for the best twelve Californians of one variety shown on their stem. We captured this cup with Jane Selby. At the St. Francis Hotel Dahlia Show in 1917, Jane Selby took the gold medal for the best fifty. The blossom is as large as any dahlia grown, a delicate mauve pink of great substance and beautiful formation. The stem is wonderful, long and stiff, and the flower grows well above the foliage. It is a cut flower par excellence as it has marvelous lasting qualities. **\$1.50.**

JHR. BOREL—Old gold, a flower difficult to classify except as a hybrid decorative. Stems are long and stiff and this was a popular cut flower last season. **75c.**

JOFFRE (Rozain)—A French decorative of decided merit. The color is a delicate pink shading to white. The flowers are borne on very long, wiry stems, and it is a splendid cut flower variety. **75c.**

KING OF THE AUTUMN (Hornsveld)—This is a beautiful flower of new shadings of gold and pink. The stem is marvelous, long and stiff. This Holland introduction is not as large as the new Californians but made a hit because of its coloring. New. **\$1.50.**

LATONA—Straw color, not a large blossom but the lovely coloring and fine stem made it an exceedingly popular cut flower. New. **75c.**

LE GRAND MANITOU (Charmet)—White ground striped and speckled violet; blooms freely on long, erect stems. One of the most popular dahlias. **35c.**

MABEL (West)—A charming dahlia of light mauve. A lovely and useful variety, freely produced on long stems. The plant is quite erect in growth. **50c.**

MAMAN CHARMET—A most distinct and beautiful fancy, maroon tipped white, large and regularly formed, wonderful on exhibit table. **50c.**

★**MARYAN**—A large flower of brilliant apricot. The flowers are inclined to show a hard center. **50c.**

MASTERPIECE—Popular because of its pale old-gold color. A beautiful flower. Good stem. **35c.**

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

★**MINNIE BURGLE** (**Burgle**)—Bright red, one of the best market flowers. **25c.**

★**MINUTE MAN** (**Bessie Boston**)—The charm of this dahlia is its absolute unique coloring. The flower is deep orange shading to yellow at the center, and heavily tipped with white. Medium sized but with an excellent stem. **50c.**

MONS. LENORMAND (**Charmet**)—Striking flower of bright yellow, striped and speckled with red and often tipped with white; profuse bloomer, on a long stem. **50c.**

★**MRS. ALBERTA LEMME** (**Lemme**)—A deep maroon of unusual formation and good size and stem. Free-flowering. **50c.**

★**MRS. ALEXANDER** (**Leedham**)—Old-rose, distinct form, very much admired. **25c.**

★**MRS. E. C. BOSTON** (**Bessie Boston**)—The very best white decorative, for it is good in any climate and does not burn in the sunshine. Large regularly formed flower of great depth which holds its center to the end of the season. Best stem and good for any purpose. The popularity of this flower was proven by the 1918 shows. Nearly every exhibit contained a specimen. **\$1.00.**

★**MRS. I. W. HELLMAN, JR.**—Soft yellow, shaded pink at the edges. A lovely big blossom which has been generally admired. **\$1.50.**

MRS. NATHANIEL SLOCOMBE (**Slocombe**)—The brightest yellow of any dahlia. Large and good stem. **50c.**

★**NANCY ANN**—A light maroon decorative of good size and stem and wonderful keeping qualities, but outer petals would burn slightly in the early season. **\$1.50.**

★**PACIFIC** (**McWhirter**)—A pretty blossom of pleasing formation. The color is cream shading to pink. Good size and stem. **50c.**

PIERRE LE BLOUD (**Nonin**)—An attractive fancy maroon tipped white. The excellent stem, free-flowering habit, and odd colorings make this a favorite cut flower. **50c.**

PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA (**Lohrman**)—This is the best red decorative for all purposes. It has size, stem and splendid keeping qualities when cut. We can cheerfully recommend this Californian which was introduced in 1917.

PRINCESS MARY (**Hornsveld**)—Vivid light pink, good stem. New. **75c.**

RADEN KARTINI—A peculiar salmon with good habit. New. **75c.**

ROSE GEM—Pale flesh pink shading deeper. Blooms freely. New. **75c.**

★**SAN MATEO** (**Bessie Boston**)—A monster bi-color of deep yellow heavily striped and splashed scarlet. A flower of great substance and good stem. Grows very tall and bears its blossoms well above the foliage. A flower which is equally good for cutting, exhibiting or garden decoration. Creates a sensation because of its size and color. **\$2.50.**

★**SEABRIGHT** (**Reidy**)—Apricot-buff, on long, stiff, erect stems; flowers produced in large quantities, grand for cutting. **35c.**

SOUVENIR de MASSDIJK—Creamy salmon, good size and excellent for all purposes. **50c.**

SOUVENIR GUSTAVE DOAZON (**Bruant**)—Rich scarlet, immense flower. **25c.**

SULPHUREA—Sulphur yellow with long cactus-like petals, always a favorite. **50c.**

★**SUNSHINE** (**Kessing**)—The most brilliant scarlet, faintly tipped yellow. Soft, exquisite formation, splendid large exhibition variety and striking in the garden, but if you grow your dahlias where it is warm, give this variety a shaded locality. New. **\$1.50.**

★**SUSSEX**—The color is deep lilac or mauve. It is somewhat of a semi-tubular form of decorative; good bloomer, good keeper, with fine stems. **50c.**

TENOR ALVAREZ (**Nonin**)—Rosy-lilac striped and splashed with velvety brown, very large flowers, freely produced on long stems. **25c.**

★**THEODORE VAIL** (**Bessie Boston**)—A color much in demand, old gold shading to apricot. The stem is long and straight and borne well above the foliage, making it an admirable cut flower. Especially fine for florist's use. Flower is large and plant blooms freely. **\$2.50.**

★**W. D'ARCY RYAN** (**Bessie Boston**)—Named for the man who made the P. P. I. E. famous. A striking fancy of violet purple heavily tipped white. A characteristic of this dahlia is that it is always tipped white. It never has a blossom on the bush of solid color like the usual fancies. Stem is good, size is large and it is free-flowering. **\$1.00.**

NEW CACTUS DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN CREATION

The cactus always will be a favorite with many people because of its unique formation of petals, which make it look like a chrysanthemum. The petals are long, narrow, pointed, twisted or fluted. The hybrid cactus is becoming popular; it is a large bold flower, of coarse petals.

★**AMBER GLOW (Bessie Boston)**—A cactus of the highest English type, petals are long, narrow and straight. Size immense. Stem is as good as its parent Pierrot. The color is bright yellow, deepening to pale orange at the center. An incomparable exhibit blossom which is also good for cutting. Stock is very limited. Roots, \$3.50. Green plants in May, \$2.00.

★**CALIFORNIA ENCHANTRESS (Bessie Boston)**—A monster bloom of great substance and a delightful shade of pale pink. Hybrid cactus are greatly in demand because of their size and erect stems. This has both these admirable qualities, combined with freedom in flowering. The sales were large last Fall of this dahlia and our stock is limited, so we have but few bulbs to offer. Roots, \$5.00. Plants in May, \$3.50.

CACTUS DAHLIAS—General Collection

These prices are for strong tubers.

Those starred are California dahlias.

BELOIT—Purplish-crimson in color; large hybrid cactus; the stems are unusually long; very good. 35c.

BORDER KING—A large bold flower of crimson. The stiff, straight and long stem is one of its best characteristics. The petals are long and straight. 75c.

DR. ROY APPLETON—A splendid variety, with straight, spreading petals; the color is lemon changing to salmon; fine exhibition, also effective in garden. 35c.

EDITH CARTER—Yellow suffused and tipped carmine, on very erect stems, fine for cutting, or garden decoration. 35c.

EMPEROR—Very large cactus, the flower being both deep and massive, color a striking shade of pinkish-violet, fine for exhibition. 35c.

E. F. HAWES (Stredwick)—Every flower of this exceptionally fine cactus is carried on a stem as hard and straight as a cane. The color is a clear delicate pink, a shade always in demand as a cut flower. The plant grows tall and is covered with blossoms. This is the very best pink cactus that has ever been introduced and we highly recommend it for all purposes. 75c.

F. W. FELLOWES (Stredwick)—Always a prize winner, no exhibit table or garden is perfect without this splendid dahlia. The blossom is huge and composed of long, narrow, straight petals. The color is unusual, orange or terra-cotta. The stem is long and straight, making an excellent variety for cutting. Keeps its center until the end of the season. 50c.

★**GEORGE WALTERS (Carter)**—Always a prize winner. This is a monster hybrid cactus of lovely coloring, pinkish-salmon shading to a yellow base. The blossom is freely produced on long stems. The flower has petals of great substance, and is good for any purpose. One of the best dahlias in existence. This California dahlia was introduced the year of the exposition and has become a standard. 75c.

GIGANTIC (Stredwick)—Beautiful color of pure old gold. One of the best dahlias for exhibiting, but the stems are pendant. 50c.

★**GOLDEN WEST (Bromall)**—A coarse petaled cactus of great merit because of its size, coloring, stem and keeping qualities when cut. The color is a striking old gold, which is not common in dahlias. A most beautiful and useful cactus which we can recommend for any locality. 50c.

GWENDOLYN TUCKER (Keynes)—One of the largest varieties of this type. The color is white shading to delicate pink; the stems are good, but it is not an exhibition variety, for it shows center early. 35c.

IRRESISTIBLE—Color salmon-yellow suffused with rose, with a band of rose up each side of florets; plant hard-wooded, the flower stems easily carrying large flowers. 35c.

IVORY WHITE—The best white exhibition cactus. The large flower is composed of many fine petals, giving it substance; stem pendant. 75c.

★**KALIF (Englehardt)**—An immense bright red flower of the hybrid cactus type. A dahlia which is admirable for many purposes, its long stems and bright coloring making it a favorite for cutting. As it flowers freely all season it is an excellent garden variety. 50c.

CACTUS DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

LE TRIOMPHE—A French hybrid cactus of merit. Flower is large, of a salmon color shading to yellow. **50c.**

MARY FURRIER (West)—One of the most useful varieties raised, either for garden or exhibition; the habit is perfect; blooms are large on long, stiff and erect stalks; color brilliant scarlet. **50c.**

MARGUERITE BOUCHON (Cayeaux)—White shading to pink; the petals are long and straight and the formation of the flower is uncommon. **50c.**

MATADOR—A fascinating flower of great size and the most beautiful shade of old rose. The petals are curiously cleft. This is a hybrid which is much in demand. **75c.**

MISS STREDWICK (Stredwick)—A fine exhibition variety of pale pink shading to white. Stem pendant. **35c.**

MRS. C. COOPER (Burrell)—This is one of the largest cactus grown. The florets are of immense length, slightly and regularly incurved. The color is a brownish tan. **50c.**

NEW YORK—Orange-yellow shading to bronzy-salmon, large regular incurved flower; grand. **35c.**

NIBELUNGENHORN—A lovely hybrid of old rose. A free bloomer of good size and stem. Always in demand as a cut flower. **50c.**

NORMAN (West)—A cactus with every good quality, formation, stem, color, size and free flowering. The immense flower is composed of many exceedingly fine petals which give it great depth. The color is a fine scarlet. Good for cutting, exhibiting or garden. It is a dwarf grower. This dahlia has proven better in a warm climate than in a foggy one. **75c.**

OLYMPIC—Huge crimson flower of finest quality; the habit is quite erect, but it is more valuable as an exhibition variety. **35c.**

PIERROT (Stredwick)—So different from any other dahlia that it always attracts attention. The color is a deep amber, boldly tipped white. The striking blossoms are very large and the florets are incurved. The bushes are a mass of blooms all season. The plants have a splendid habit. Although a fancy, it has not shown much tendency to produce self-colored flowers. **50c.**

RAPIERE (Vilmorin)—An immense bold flower of hybrid type; the color is a deep old gold. **50c.**

RHEINISCHER FROHSINN—(Goos-Koenemann)—A most wonderful cactus; its erect stem, large size and beautiful coloring of shaded pink make it a great favorite as a cut flower. A mass of blooms all season make it an ornament to the garden. Then, too, it has all the best exhibition qualities. **50c.**

RUTH GLEADELL (Gleadell-Seal)—A fine hybrid of sunburst shades; soft yellow shading to pink on the outer petals. Good stem, large size, excellent formation, and a free-bloomer. **\$1.50.**

★SAN FRANCISCO (Lohrman)—Large bloom of the hybrid cactus order. Deep red, distinctly tipped yellow. Firm, erect stem, making an excellent cut flower variety. **75c.**

SOVEREIGNTY—Large flower of deep yellow, almost straight petals; bold flower, fine for exhibition; stem pendant. **50c.**

★TOM LUNDY (Fenton)—With us this has been an exceptional hybrid. The bold crimson flower measured ten inches across and was full to the center. This is a dahlia which grows best in a heavy soil and in the full sunshine. The excellent stem grew well above the foliage; a free bloomer. This dahlia was introduced in 1915 and has become a California standard. **75c.**

UNIQUE (Keynes)—Beautiful flower of deep red with pure white tips; quite distinct variety. **50c.**

WALKURE (Goos-Koenemann)—Hybrid cactus of large size, golden yellow shading lighter towards the center. Fine long, stiff stem for cutting. **50c.**

WHITE ENSIGN—The best white for cutting as the stem is long and stiff. The blossom is large and well formed and looks like a chrysanthemum. **25c.**

YELLOW KING (Hornsveld)—Yellow King is a wonder. It stands up so straight and stiff that many people confuse it with a chrysanthemum. Too much cannot be said in praise of this marvelous hybrid, as it possesses so many good qualities. The stem is very long and rigid; the color is a pleasing shade of yellow; it lasts days when cut; the formation of long twisted petals is perfect. This dahlia will bloom freely all season if several small tubers are planted instead of one. **50c.**

NEW COLLARETTE DAHLIAS OF OUR OWN CREATION

Collarettes are the newest type of dahlia. They originated in France. Before the war they were the craze in Europe and have been popular in California since we first exhibited them at the P. P. I. E. The collarette is a single dahlia, with a fringe, or collar, of small petals around the yellow disc, or center, hence the name. The stems are always stiff and long, and there are no better flowers for cutting.

★**SAN MATEO STAR (Bessie Boston)**—An extraordinary flower and the biggest collarette ever produced. Nobody could resist it as it grew on the farm last fall. The color is a clear cerise, the petals edged white, and the collar white. The formation is a distinct star. Like all blossoms of this type, is a cheerful bloomer with good stems. Makes a wonderful and novel cut flower. Roots, **\$1.50.**

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS—General Collection

The prices are for strong tubers.

Those starred are California dahlias.

ABBE HUGONARD (Rivière)—A giant in its class. The coloring is a striking purple with a distinct white edge to the petals. Collar is white. Stem is particularly long and stiff and the flower always attracts attention whether growing or on the exhibition table. **50c.**

AMATEUR CHARVANET—A bright flame color, with a collar of lighter tint. Blooms at the top of long, straight stems. **50c.**

AMI CACHAT (Rivière)—A brilliant orange of large size with yellow collar. A distinctive and beautiful blossom. **50c.**

AMI NONIN (Charmet)—One of the most beautiful flowers of its type. Color is a charming, shaded old rose. A great favorite as a cut flower. **35c.**

★**AUNT DINAH**—A splendid dark collarette. Large bloom of maroon, with a collar of lighter tint, long stiff stems, fine habit of growth. **50c.**

★**CREAM CUP**—White collarettes are uncommon, and in this we have a big, creamy white, slightly cup-shaped, white collar. **50c.**

DIOMEDE (Charmet)—Deep carmine, purple-suffused, and edged white, lighter collar; large, very tall and fine. **25c.**

DORA FISHER—The only pink collarette of good color. A most beautiful and uncommon flower, and a great favorite for cutting. Blooms abundantly all season. Sometimes blooms with a double row of petals, but is always charming. **50c.**

ETOILE DE MONT PLAISIR—A large collarette of the star formation; purplish crimson in color, with a collar shaded rose and white. **50c.**

★**ESMERALDA (Bessie Boston)**—A yellow shading to soft cream, with faint shading of rose, cream collar. Very regularly formed, and fine for cutting. **50c.**

GEANT DE LYON (Rivière)—An enormous flower of velvety maroon, with a white collar. Everybody exclaims upon seeing it: "How like velvet!" This is the dahlia which has made the collarettes famous in California. To most people it seems absolutely irresistible. Fortunately it blooms very freely, or we could not have filled the demands for it as a cut flower. People who do not favor collarettes cannot resist this dahlia. **75c.**

★**HOOT MON**—Delightful cerise or rosy-carmine is the lovely color of this big bloom; the pure white collar makes a fine contrast. **50c.**

JOHN BULL—The biggest deep red collarette. Splendid for exhibition purposes. The collar is white shaded with red. This is a new English dahlia of merit. **50c.**

★**MME. LOCHER (Bessie Boston)**—One of the most striking dahlias of any variety. A giant among collarettes, with wonderful stem. The coloring is absolutely unique, an amber-terra cotta with a splash of orange running the length of each petal. The collar is of bright amber; a most beautiful combination of color. **75c.**



CACTUS DAHLIA "PIERROT"

(See Page 11)



NEW DECORATIVE DAHLIA "JANE SELBY"

(See Page 8)

COLLARETTE DAHLIAS—General Collection (Continued)

✓ **MME. POIRER (Charmet)**—The nearest to blue in any variety of dahlia. A soft violet-blue with white collar, very free bloomer. **25c.**

★ **MT. LASSEN (Bessie Boston)**—Fiery red with yellow collar. This is a very sturdy grower and was a mass of blooms all season. Its stems are wonderful even for a collarette, and its lasting qualities unsurpassed. **50c.**

★ **PIERSON DURBROW (Bessie Boston)**—A wonderful collarette, and of an absolutely new coloring in dahlias, deep mahogany-red with a golden collar. The flower is of immense size, and was greatly admired by all who saw it. **75c.**

QUEEN BESS (Dobble)—Bright orange-scarlet, yellow collar, very pretty. **35c.**

REGULARITY (Stredwick)—Purplish-crimson, with a collar of white and purple, the petals evenly formed; a wonderfully free bloomer. **35c.**

★ **SILVER MEDAL (Bessie Boston)**—The most beautiful and stunning of all the collarettes. The color is crimson-maroon, with each petal distinctly outlined in white, with a white collar in fine contrast. The stems are, of course, fine. This is the most wonderful dahlia to bloom we have ever seen, a mass of flowers from the beginning to the end of the season. **75c.**

SOUV. BEL ACCUEIL (Riviere)—This orange-red with a yellow collar should be seen to be appreciated. It is one of the largest as well as one of the most beautiful. **50c.**

★ **WM. WELSH (Bessie Boston)**—There has always been a demand for a first class yellow collarette, and we have no hesitancy in stating we have answered the call in this dahlia. The large flower has a long collar of the same color. The stem is fine, and it is one of the freest flowering varieties. **75c.**

SHOW DAHLIAS—General Collection

The prices are for strong tubers.

Those starred are California dahlias.

These are the old-fashioned, quilled double flowers, and still hold a warm place in the hearts of many people because of their lovely colorings and an excellence for cutting. The giant, or hybrid shows, are becoming favorites because of their tremendous size.

★ **ANNA REHORST (Rehorst-Bessie Boston)**—A most wonderful hybrid show of the deepest shade of purple. The very large flowers are borne well above the foliage. Blooms freely, and was much admired by all who saw it because of its excellent habit, beauty and novelty of color. **50c.**

BLACK DIAMOND—Large flower of deep maroon, of hybrid show type; fine for cutting or garden decoration. **25c.**

★ **CLARA SEATON (Reidy-Doolittle)**—An enormous hybrid flower of most attractive and uncommon coloring. Best described as rich golden-bronze or apricot. **50c.**

DAVID JOHNSON—Pinkish salmon, large flower of excellent quality. **35c.**

★ **GENERAL HAIG (Kettlewell)**—Best scarlet show. Pure English exhibition type. The large ball shape bloom is beautifully quilled. A good blossomer, with good stem. New shows are difficult to obtain and this is a remarkably fine one. New. **\$1.00.**

GLORY OF LYON—The best white show in existence, for it has size, stem and free blooming qualities. **25c.**

GOLD MEDAL—Canary-yellow, striped and flaked red. **25c.**

★ **MARITANA (Bessie Boston)**—A dahlia which would create a sensation anywhere because of its exquisite lilac or mauve shade. The highest English type of show, with closely quilled petals. The flowers are large. **\$1.00.**

NUGGET—Big yellow, striped red. Fine form. **25c.**

QUEEN ELENA—This hybrid show came from Italy before the war and has never before been offered for sale. The large blossom is white, delicately edged and shaded pink. The stems are not always upright. **\$1.**

POMPON DAHLIAS—General Collection

The prices are for strong tubers.

AMELIA—A tiny blossom of lovely pink color. **35c.**

ANNIE DORCASTER—Soft yellow, edged mauve, small flower. **35c.**

BACCHUS—An excellent bright scarlet for cutting. **25c.**

DAISY—Salmon. Popular because of its color. **35c.**

EDITH BRYANT (Keynes)—One of the biggest favorites of all because of its rare coloring, yellow ground shading to brownish red at the tips. **35c.**

HARRY SNOOK—The daintiest little flower imaginable, white delicately shaded with pale pink. **35c.**

IDEAL—A very fine yellow, good for all purposes. **35c.**

JOHNNIE (West)—The tiniest of all, and very regularly and beautifully formed. Color, a dark red, which made it a favorite button hole flower with the men. **50c.**

KITTY BARRETT—Very tiny yellow, tipped brown. **75c.**

LASSIE—The color of this is unique in pompons, old rose. **35c.**

LITTLE BEESWING (Keynes)—This is the favorite pompon of many people because it is so tiny and beautifully formed. Then, the coloring is exquisite; deep cherry shading to golden yellow. A bloom which is good for cutting and exhibiting. **50c.**

LITTLE BUGLER—A perfect little gem of deep cerise. **50c.**

★**LITTLE DEAR (Bessie Boston)**—An attractive old rose with salmon shadings. A flower of medium size but popular because of its lovely coloring. New. **50c.**

MARIETTA—A small maroon flower which is very pretty. **35c.**

NELLY FRAZER (West)—A beautiful flower of shaded pink. Well formed bloom of tiny quilled petals. Especially useful because of its color for table decoration, but also good for exhibiting and the garden. **50c.**

★**SAMMY (Bessie Boston)**—A small compact blossom of yellow, tipped brown. Flower equally good for exhibiting or cutting. New. **50c.**

SUNSET—This is the only orange pompon and as a consequence the demand is usually greater than the supply. Always used for exhibition purposes. **35c.**

TOMMY KEITH—A charming bicolor, crimson evenly tipped white. A great favorite. **35c.**

ENGLISH SINGLE DAHLIAS

English singles are tiny regularly formed flowers with slightly recurved petals. They correspond with the pompons in popularity for cutting.

MRS. J. HICKS (Cheal)—A bronze yellow with a brownish disc. A lovely flower. **35c.**

PEGGY—A dainty blossom of pink with a disc of darker shade around the yellow center. **35c.**

SNOWDROP—White, with a yellow disc around the center. **35c.**

UNION JACK—White, evenly edged scarlet. **35c.**

HOW TO KEEP CUT BLOOMS OF DAHLIAS

Burn the tips of the stems on a gas stove or put the stems of the flowers in a pitcher containing three inches of boiling water and leave there fifteen minutes. Remove and put the stems in a vase of fresh water. Dahlias, to last, should be arranged in a tall, deep vase, not in a shallow bowl. Some people cut a small piece off the stems every day, burn, and put in fresh water, and their flowers last over a week.

News  Leader

San Mateo, Cal.

GRAND PRIX DAHLIAS



New Decorative Dahlia "Carmencita" (See page 7)

Bessie Boston Dahlia Farm
San Mateo, California